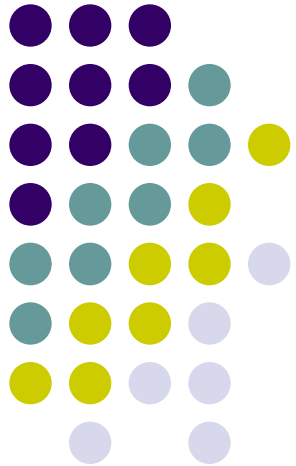
Academic Integrity

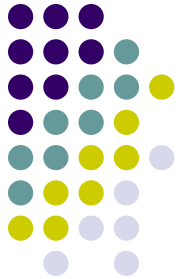
What it is

How plagiarism is detected

How you can avoid violations



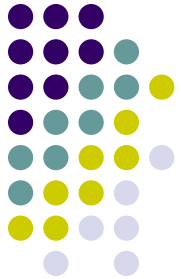
Thinking of studying in the U.S.?



Prepare yourself with a short quiz!

- **True or False:** It is acceptable to share answers to a test with your classmate.
- **True or False:** You are writing a research paper, and find a published book on the same topic. You agree with everything the author says, so it is okay to borrow a few sentences to put in your paper.
- **True or False:** If your friend wrote an essay and received a good grade on it, it is fine if you re-use the essay the following school year and submit it as your own.
- **True or False:** If you find interesting material on the internet, you can use it in a paper and you don't need to give the author any credit, because it is common knowledge available to everyone.

Thinking of studying in the U.S.?



In the U.S., the answer to all of these questions would be **FALSE**.

If you are considering studying in the U.S., then you need to be familiar with the American perspectives on academic integrity.

What is academic integrity?

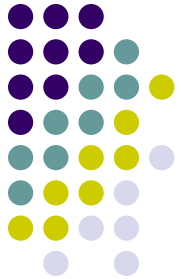
- Academic integrity is a cultural value on which all American academic communities are based.
- Integrity (правила поведения) is synonymous with honesty.
- Cheating, improper collaboration, plagiarism and fabrication all violate the spirit of academic integrity.

Cheating and Improper Collaboration

- Cheating is “using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise.” [i]
- This includes acquiring answers or ideas from any unauthorized source, such as purchasing an essay from someone else or asking someone else to write your essay.

[i] http://www.jmu.edu/honor/wm_library/Printable%20Code-update%205-12-06.htm

How to Avoid Cheating and Improper Collaboration

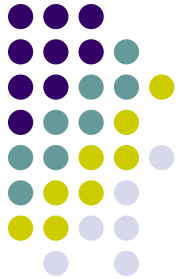


- Write your essays yourself.
- Do not ask or pay anyone else to write them for you.
- Asking someone to proofread your essay for grammatical errors is okay; having them rewrite it for you is not.

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is taking the work of another and offering it as one's own without giving credit to that source, whether that material is ***paraphrased*** or ***copied*** in verbatim or near-verbatim form.
- This applies to published **and** unpublished resources: books, magazines, newspapers, etc., material from the web, speeches, or papers written by others.
- Plagiarism also includes not properly citing a resource used when quoting or paraphrasing.

How to Avoid Plagiarism

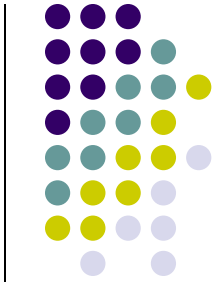


- If you use any resources (books, periodicals, websites, speeches—anything that you have not personally written or said) then you should cite it.
- Learn more about specific U.S. citation styles at http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/
- Even if you are not familiar with the U.S. systems of citation, give credit in your writing. Include the source (the name and author of the book/paper, or the URL for the website).

Fabrication

- Fabrication (выдумка, вымысел) and falsification (фальсификация) are the acts of inventing or changing data for research that has not been shown, read or proven.
- This also includes changing or altering documents and records.

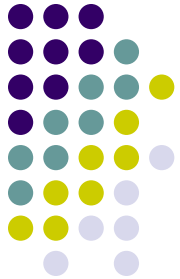
How to Avoid Fabrication



- Do not falsify any of the data or information in your essays.

- Do not falsify or alter any of your references.

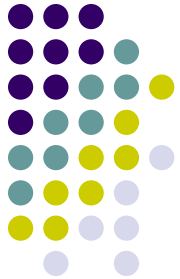
Plagiarism Detection



- IREX and Global UGRAD host universities will investigate any and all suspected instances of cheating, improper collaboration, plagiarism, and fabrication.

- Such instances may be identified through the use of plagiarism detection software.

Plagiarism Detection



See the following websites for examples of software that IREX, universities and professors use to detect plagiarism:

- http://www.plagiarismdetect.com/
- http://www.plagiarismchecker.com/
- http://www.articlechecker.com/
- http://www.checkforplagiarism.net/
- http://www.turnitin.com

How does plagiarism detection software work?

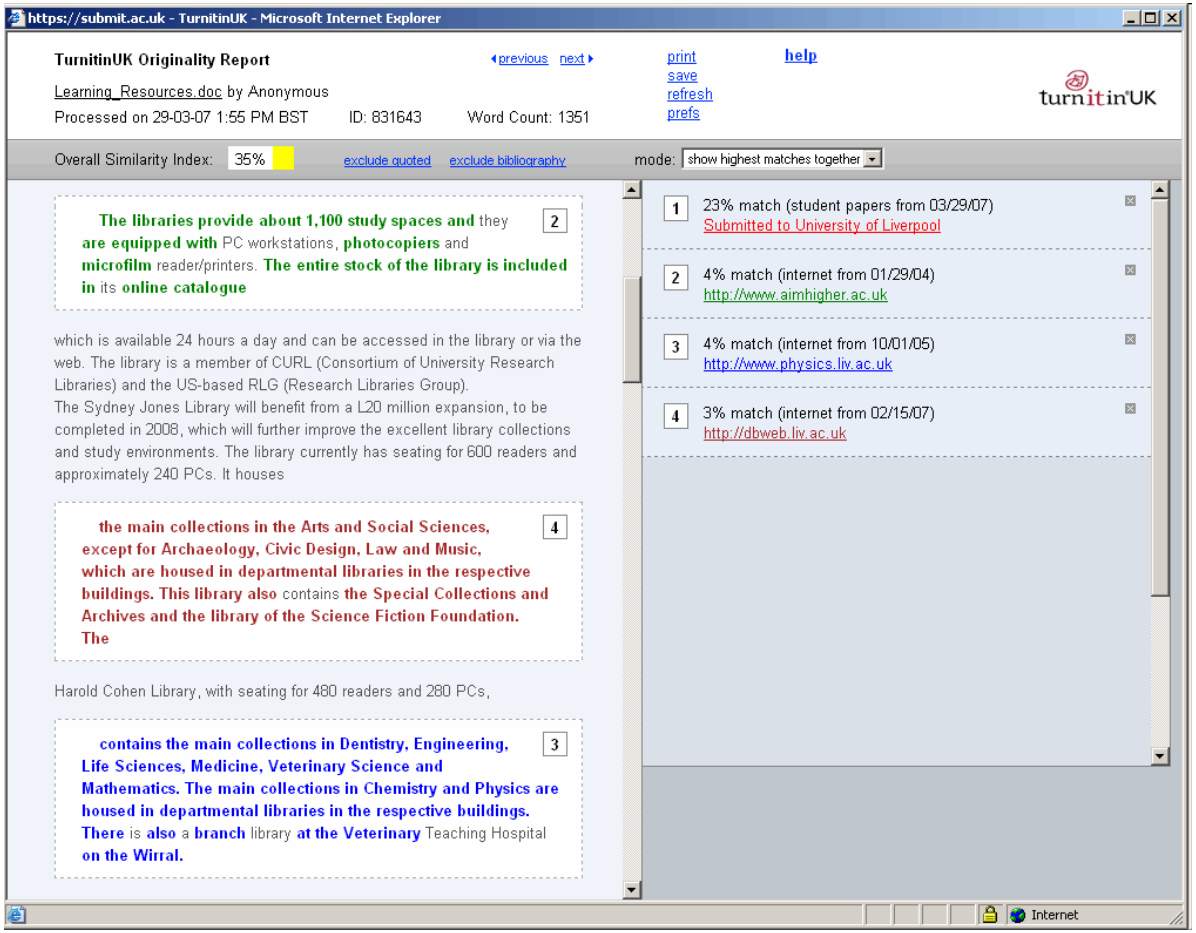
- The software scans the written work which a student has submitted, and cross-references it with works available on the internet and in continuously updated databases.

- The software notifies the user when a phrase or a sentence are the same or very similar to an already-published work.

How does plagiarism detection software work?

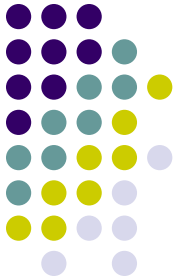
http://www.compress.ru/Archive/CP/2004/10/34/Untitled-5.jpg

How does plagiarism detection software work?



http://www.liv.ac.uk/csd/csd_images/plagiarism/colour-coded-matches.png

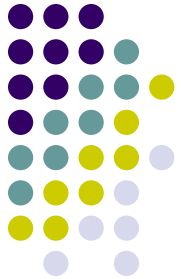
How does plagiarism detection software work?



- If those sentences are not cited, then the software user knows that this a possible instance of plagiarism.

- The essay is then checked by hand to verify whether not a citation was made.

Plagiarism Detection



- Plagiarism detection is not limited to software. It can also be found via:
  - A sudden change in the writer's tone
  - A change in the writer's verb tense or voice
  - A sudden increase or decrease in the quality of the writer's language
- Universities and professors are familiar with these types of sudden changes in a student's writing, and if something seems unusual to them, they will investigate for instances of plagiarism.

Questions?

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